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BULLETIN

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## CASPIAN TERN NESTING COLONY AT DUMBARTON BRIDGE

### SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO BAY

The following is the result of a survey that my wife and I made today — June 21, 1952.

Nests with 1 egg	Nests with 2 eggs	Nests with 3 eggs	Nests with 1 egg & 1 young	Nests with 2 young	Nests entirely empty
52	75	11	27	23	66

Fledglings out of nests and swimming in the water or walking along the levee numbered 202 by actual count. Adult birds counted numbered 253 plus 350 estimated. This gave us a grand total of 603 adults, 275 young, 262 eggs and 254 nests.

CARLYLE SATHER

## CALIFORNIA CONDOR PROTECTION

The following letter has been received by Mr. MacCaughey from the president of the National Audubon Society, Mr. John H. Baker.

"The action of the Golden Gate Audubon Society in again this year contributing \$100 to assist the National Society in meeting the costs of warden service for the protection of the California condor is deeply appreciated.

The special condor warden assigned by the Forest Service is on the job from March 1 through October 31. The National Society contributes to the Federal government a sum sufficient to take care of his salary and expenses for the first four months, and the Forest Service takes care of such costs out of its Fire Budget in the last four months.

The National Society is again this year providing the services for two or three months of a young man who devotes his time to trying to spot the exact location of every this year's condor nest. It is important that the Forest Service have such information in order properly to apply the powers it received through the terms of the executive order . . .

The total cost to the Society in connection with this program runs to about \$1500 a year.

It is heart-warming to receive financial aid in this project from our California friends."

## MEMORIAL DAY TRIP TO YOSEMITE VALLEY

The Memorial Day trip to Yosemite, conducted from May 30 to June 1, 1952, under the leadership of W. J. Fitzpatrick, assisted by A. Laurence Curl and Harry C. Adamson, was attended by approximately 50 members and guests. While weather and scenic conditions were ideal at the lower levels, the

season was early for good results above 4,000 feet. Birding trips were held from 2,000 feet at El Portal, west of Yosemite Valley, to Bridalveil Creek at 7,500 feet on the Glacier Point Road, the major emphasis being, of course, on Yosemite Valley proper. The waterfalls put on a display that has not been equaled in the memory of those in attendance except under disastrous flood conditions in 1937 and 1950. For birding purposes, however, the moisture was too abundant, since the meadows lying close to the river were all under water. A result of this was that Tenaya Canyon above Mirror Lake, the best birding area in Yosemite Valley, was not accessible, thus rendering unlikely our chances of finding the highly desired Calliope hummingbird and the pygmy owl. Nevertheless, highlights were plentiful: Among these can be counted a pair of nesting pileated woodpeckers, the presence of low-flying black swifts in unprecedented numbers, a pair of peregrine falcons soaring not too far overhead, and feeding black-chinned hummingbirds at El Portal.

The following 69 species were recorded:

Red-tailed hawk	Violet-green swallow	Tolmie (Macgillivray) warbler
Peregrine falcon	Rough-winged swallow	Pileolated warbler
Band-tailed pigeon	Steller jay	House sparrow
Mourning dove	Scrub jay	West. meadowlark
Black swift	Mountain chickadee	Common redwing
White-throated swift	Plain titmouse	Bullock oriole
Black-chinned hummingbird	White-breasted nuthatch	Brewer blackbird
Belted kingfisher	Red-breasted nuthatch	Brown-headed cowbird
Red-shafted flicker	Brown creeper	Western tanager
Pileated woodpecker	Ouzel (Amer. dipper)	Black-headed grosbeak
Acorn (Calif.) woodpecker	House wren	Evening grosbeak
Red-breasted sapsucker	Canyon wren	Purple finch
Hairy woodpecker	American robin	Cassin finch
Downy woodpecker	Townsend solitaire	House finch
White-headed woodpecker	Golden-crowned kinglet	Lesser goldfinch
Western kingbird	Ruby-crowned kinglet	Green-tailed towhee
Ash-throated flycatcher	Solitary vireo	Spotted towhee
Black phoebe	Warbling vireo	Brown towhee
Hammond flycatcher	Calaveras warbler	Oregon junco
Wright flycatcher	Yellow warbler	Chipping sparrow
Trail flycatcher	Audubon warbler	White-crowned sparrow
Western wood pewee	Black-throated-gray warbler	Fox sparrow
Olive-sided flycatcher	Hermit warbler	Lincoln sparrow

— W. J. FITZPATRICK, *Leader and Historian.*

On May 10th a small group of Audubonites were fortunate to have Mr. Fitzpatrick take them on a partial preview of the Memorial day trip on the Valley floor. Because of his uncanny ability to "squeak" out the birds and arouse their curiosity with owl calls, he was dubbed "St. Frances." The tiny Calliope hummingbird did appear on the tip of a high fir tree at Rocky Pt.!

**OBSERVATIONS** edited by Junea W. Kelly: Townsend warbler, May 11, Cedar waxwing, May 25, Tilden Park; Spotted sandpiper, May 25, Lake Anza; Hooded oriole, May 18, El Cerrito; Wilson phalarope, June 1, near Gustine. A. Laurence Cull.

### June — PINE CANYON — Trip

Sunday, June 8, an ideal day with moderate temperature was enjoyed by over 40 who hiked into Pine Canyon, a new area for field trips. The wooded trail near the base of sandstone cliffs followed a stream which ended in a reservoir and dam. Lazuli buntings were observed in this area.

Highlight of the trip was a colony of white-throated swifts flying about the cliffs. Nests were not found. However we observed violet-green swallows about their nests, and many were fortunate in obtaining a splendid view of a red-tailed hawk on its nest atop a Digger pine. Returning, two members with courage, Dr. L. Curl and Mr. Larry Chapman took the high trail above the cliffs and reported the prairie falcon.

Fifty species were recorded: turkey vulture; red-tailed hawk; prairie falcon; sparrow hawk; Cal. quail; killdeer; mourning dove; white-throated swift; red-shafted flicker; California (acorn), hairy, downy, and Nuttall woodpecker; ash-throated flycatcher; black phoebe; western flycatcher; western wood pewee; violet-green, rough-winged, and cliff swallow; Steller and scrub jay; bush-tit; white-breasted nuthatch; wren-tit; house, Bewick, and canyon wren; mockingbird; Cal. thrasher; western bluebird; western gnatcatcher; Hutton and solitary (Cassin) vireo; orange-cr. and black-throated-gray warbler; house sparrow; meadowlark; Brewer blackbird; cowbird; blk.-headed grosbeak; lazuli bunting; house finch; Amer. and lesser goldfinch; spotted and brown towhee; lark sparrow; Oregon junco; chipping sparrow.

— EVE FOREE, *Leader and Historian.*

**THE JUNE SUPPER MEETING** at Codornices Park before the crackling fire was greatly enjoyed by about 60 members and guests. Mrs. Ethel Matheson gave a most interesting account of Hawaiian birds, she had seen on the field trips with the Audubon Society; Mrs. Ethel Richardson told of traveling "north with the Spring" from Florida to Maine; Dr. A. Laurence Curl spoke with enthusiasm of the numerous birds in Texas and Arizona; Mr. Bert Harwell related experiences in the four corners of the U. S. A. and by request whistled the songs of many birds, his russet-backed thrush song brought glorious responses from a nearby tree; Miss Olive Birks of England enumerated the colorful birds of her country and those, too, which are similar to our own species. Dr. Boles presided in the place of Mr. MacCaughey, who is directing the Audubon Camp at Norden.

**FIELD OBSERVATION** from "The Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society Bulletin" "Parula Warbler On May 24 at Point Lobos, Mr. Kenneth Legg reported the presence of a pair of this species in the Monterey Pines near the Ranger's house. Also seen by other competent observers. This is the first record of this species in the State of California. Charles Sibley" June 1952

**NEW MEMBERS:** We welcome the following; from San Francisco, Miss Fran Chilcott, Mr. Edward E. Eyre, Mrs. T. C. Macormack, Mr. James Mailiard, Mrs. Lyman B. Miller; from Oakland, Mr. and Mrs. John Featherston, Mrs. Greta Green; from Berkeley, Mr. Glen R. Haas, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Lindley; from Kentfield, Mrs. William Kent; from San Mateo, Mrs. Wallace Baker; from Palo Alto, Dr. and Mrs. Milton Rose; from Santa Cruz, Mrs. Annie S. Davies; from Auburn, Mr. Lewis Johnson.

## JULY MEETING

The 418th meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be held in the Children's Room of the Oakland Public Library, Oak and 14th Streets (entrance on Oak St.), on July 10th, at 7:30 P.M. After the business meeting, there will be a showing of two color films from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service — LOWER SOURIS REFUGE and ALASKA GAME AND FUR BEARERS. The public is invited. No-host dinner at Zerikote's on Lake Merritt at 6 o'clock.

DOROTHY DEAN SCOTT, *Program Chairman.*

### July — SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS — Trip

On Sunday, July 13th we will have a joint field trip with the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society. Meet at the intersection of Skyline Boulevard and the Saratoga-Big Basin Road at 8:30 A.M. This junction spot is known as the Saratoga Gap. Driving time from the East Bay would be approximately an hour and a half.

Although July is generally poor for land birding at low elevations, the increased humidity and elevation of this area may bring out some interesting species. Bring lunch, and interested friends. Leader—Dr. Charles Sibley.

### July — STRAWBERRY CANYON — Trip

On Saturday, July 26 to Strawberry Canyon where lazuli buntings are often observed. Meet at the roadway on the east side of the U.C. Stadium near the junction with the Strawberry Canyon road, at 9:00 A.M. A good chance to become more familiar with some of the local birds.

The walk will include the Botanical Garden. From San Francisco take the "F" train to Shattuck and Bancroft and take a College Ave. bus to Durant and College Ave. Walk two blocks east and one block north to the meeting spot. Leader—Alison Berry, LAndscape 5-5813.

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### Golden Gate Audubon Society, Incorporated (Organized January 25, 1917)

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